

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A distributor plate for an impelling rotor of a rotating shaft impactor, where the impelling rotor is a chamber arranged in use to rotate about an axis of a rotor shaft and to radially eject material received therein through one or more ejection ports in a side wall of the chamber, the distributor plate being in use held in a fixed position with respect to the impelling rotor, wherein the distributor plate consists of a single base portion including a central portion having a substantially planar continuous upper surface and a single wear element comprising a substantially planar circular disc including a central portion, the single wear element being positioned on and affixed to the upper surface to alone entirely cover the upper surface of the base portion including the base portion central portion onto which the material would otherwise be received.

2 - 6 (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) A distributor plate as claimed in claim 1 wherein the wear element is made of a wear resistant material.

8. (Currently Amended) A distributor plate as claimed in claim 1 wherein the ~~body~~ base portion includes a projection at its peripheral edge which is used to locate the wear element on the upper surface of the base portion.

9. (Original) A distributor plate as claimed in claim 8 wherein the projection is a peripheral lip.

10. (Previously Presented) A distributor plate as claimed in claim 1 wherein the wear element is spaced from the base portion by one or more spacers arranged between the upper surface of the base portion and a mating surface of the wear element so that, when the wear element is attached to the base portion by use of an adhesive substance, the spacer(s) provide a predetermined depth of the adhesive substance between the base portion and the wear element.

11. (Previously Presented) A distributor plate as claimed in claim 10 wherein one such spacer is a projecting ring on the base portion, concentric with a central axis of the base portion and inset from the peripheral edge of the base portion.

12. (Previously Presented) A distributor plate as claimed in claim 1 wherein a lower peripheral edge of the base portion is bevelled in at least one position, the bevelled edge adapted for the insertion of a levering tool to facilitate movement of the distributor plate.

13. (Previously Presented) A distributor plate as claimed in claim 12 wherein the entire lower peripheral edge is bevelled.

14. (Withdrawn) A distributor plate for an impelling rotor of a rotating shaft impactor, the distributor plate including a wear element positioned on a body, the wear element spaced from the body by one or more spacers arranged between facing surfaces of the body and the wear element so that, when the element is attached to the body by use of an adhesive substance, the spacer(s) allow for a predetermined depth of the adhesive substance between the body and the wear element.

15. (Withdrawn) A distributor plate for an impelling rotor of a rotating shaft impactor, where the impelling rotor is a chamber mountable via a coupling element to a shaft of the impactor and arranged in use to rotate about an axis and to radially eject materials received therein through one or more ejection ports in a side wall of the chamber, wherein the distributor plate has a basal spigot, with a cavity in the spigot for receiving the coupling element therein in use.

16. (Withdrawn) A distributor plate for an impelling rotor of a rotating shaft impactor, where the impelling rotor is a chamber arranged in use to rotate about a rotating axis and to radially eject materials received therein through one or more ejection ports in a side wall of the chamber, wherein at least part of a peripheral edge of the distributor plate is bevelled for the insertion of a levering tool to facilitate movement of the distributor plate.

17. (Withdrawn) A distributor plate for an impelling rotor of a rotating shaft impactor, where the impelling rotor is a chamber arranged in use to rotate about a rotating axis and to radially eject materials received therein through one or more ejection ports in a side wall of the chamber, the distributor plate including a single wear element positioned on a body to alone cover an outer surface of the body and either of an opposing surface of the body or the wear element including a projection which locates the wear element on the body.

18. (Withdrawn) A distributor plate as claimed in claim 17 wherein the projection is located at the edge of the body and around its periphery.

19. (Withdrawn) A mounting for supporting a distributor plate in an impelling rotor of a rotating shaft impactor, where the impelling rotor is a chamber arranged in use to rotate about an axis and to radially eject materials received therein through one or more ejection ports in a side wall of the chamber, the distributor plate having a multi-sided basal spigot receivable in a multi-sided recess in the mounting, wherein the number of sides of the recess is a multiple greater than one of the number of sides of the spigot.

20. (Withdrawn) A mounting as claimed in claim 19 wherein the mounting is incorporated in a plate on which the distributor plate rests.

21. (Withdrawn) A mounting as claimed in claim 19 wherein the mounting is incorporated in a rotatable shaft of the rotating shaft impactor.

22. (Withdrawn) A mounting plate as claimed in claim 19 wherein the recess is a twelve-pointed star shaped hole having twenty four sides and the basal spigot has six sides.

23. (Currently Amended) An impelling rotor of a rotating shaft impactor including a distributor plate for the impelling rotor, wherein the impelling rotor is a chamber arranged in use to rotate about an axis of a rotor shaft and to radially eject material received therein through one or more ejection ports in a side wall of the chamber, the distributor plate being held in a fixed position with respect to the impelling rotor, wherein the distributor plate

consists of a single base portion including a central portion having a substantially planar continuous upper surface and a single wear element comprising a substantially planar circular disc including a central portion, the single wear element being positioned and affixed to the base portion to alone entirely cover the upper surface of the base portion including the base portion central portion onto which the material would otherwise be received.

24. (Withdrawn) An impelling rotor of a rotating shaft impactor including a mounting as defined in claim 19.

25. (Currently Amended) A rotating shaft impactor including a distributor plate for the impelling rotor, wherein the impelling rotor is a chamber arranged in use to rotate about an axis of a rotor shaft and to radially eject material received therein through one or more ejection ports in a side wall of the chamber, the distributor plate being held in a fixed position with respect to the impelling rotor, wherein the distributor plate consists of a single base portion including a central portion having a substantially planar continuous upper surface and a single wear element comprising a substantially planar circular disc including a central portion, the single wear element being positioned and affixed to alone entirely cover the upper surface of the base portion including the base portion central portion onto which the material would otherwise be received.

26. (Withdrawn) A rotating shaft impactor including a mounting as defined in claim 19.

27. (Previously Presented) A distributor plate as claimed in claim 1, wherein the upper surface of the base portion has a constant thickness throughout.

28. (Previously Presented) A distributor plate as claimed in claim 1, wherein the base portion has a basal spigot provided with a downwardly facing cavity, the cavity being arranged to receive a coupling bolt therein when said plate is mounted in the chamber.

29. (New) A distributor plate as claimed in claim 1, wherein the base portion has a multi-sided basal spigot adapted for insertion into a multi-sided central recess of the rotor shaft.

30. (New) A distributor plate according to claim 29, wherein a number of sides of said recess is a multiple of a number of sides of said spigot.